"Oak Tree" comes from California folk duo Paul Kamm and Eleanore MacDonald. On the song’s "meaning," Paul and Eleanore tend to agree with an audience member who interpreted the lyrics as saying: "No matter who you are, you still have something to offer." Propelled by their tight harmonies and Paul’s acoustic guitar work, the song is one of many highlights on their latest album, Like Water. The self-release (Freewheel #108) is available from P.O. Box 181, Nevada City, CA 95959; Web: <www.kammmac.com>.

Words & Music by Paul Kamm
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If I was an old oak tree
I’d stand beside the deep blue sea
Children would come and climb on me
If I was an old oak tree

If I was a scraggly vine
I’d be happy all the time
Turning water into wine
If I was a scraggly vine

CHORUS:
If I was a tree
I’d stand beside the deep blue sea
If I was a tree
If I was an old oak tree

If I was the howling wind
I’d bang upon your roofs of tin
But the miller’s wheel would be my friend
If I was the howling wind

If I was the blinding snow
I’d bury everyone I know
But angels in me soon would grow
If I was the blinding snow

CHORUS:
If I was the wind
The miller’s wheel would be my friend
If I was the wind
If I was the howling wind

If I was a gambling man
I’d hide the aces in my hand
Many things I’d understand
If I was a gambling man

If I was the highest hill
Way up there you’d feel a chill
But when you’re gone I’ll be here still
If I was the highest hill

CHORUS:
If I was a man
Many things I’d understand
If I was a man
If I was a gambling man
If I was a tree
I’d stand beside the deep blue sea
If I was a tree
If I was an old oak tree
If I was an old oak tree